

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-17 (Cancelled)

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising an antibody, wherein said antibody specifically binds an isolated IL-13bc protein consisting of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of

the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4;

the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acids 26 to 341; and

the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acids 363 to 380.

Claims 19-40 (Cancelled)

Claim 41 (Currently Amended): A method of inhibiting binding of IL-13 or fragments of IL-13 to the IL-13 receptor in a mammalian subject, the method comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising an antibody, wherein said antibody specifically binds an isolated IL-13bc protein consisting of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of

~~the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4;~~

~~the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acids 26 to 341; and~~

~~the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acids 363 to 380.~~

the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4;

the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acids 26 to 341; and

the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acids 363 to 380.

Claims 42-45 (Cancelled)

Claim 46 (Currently Amended): An isolated antibody that specifically binds ~~an~~
~~isolated~~ a human IL-13bc protein [[.]] , wherein said human IL-13bc protein comprises
an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of
the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4;
the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acids 26 to 341; and
the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acids 363 to 380.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): The antibody of claim 46, wherein the antibody is a
monoclonal antibody or a polyclonal antibody.

Claim 48 (Previously Presented): The antibody of claim 46, wherein the antibody is a
neutralizing antibody.

Claim 49 (Previously Presented): The antibody of claim 48, wherein the neutralizing
antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

Claim 50 (Currently Amended): The antibody according to claim 46 useful in treating
or ~~modulating~~ inhibiting IL-13-related conditions selected from allergic conditions,
asthma, immune complex diseases, lupus, nephrotic syndrome, nephritis,
glomerulonephritis, thyroiditis, Grave's disease, and immune deficiencies ~~, and cancer~~
in a mammalian subject.

Claim 51 (Currently Amended): A composition comprising the antibody according to claim 46.

Claim 52 (Currently Amended): A method of treating or ~~modulating~~ inhibiting IL-13-related conditions selected from allergic conditions, asthma, immune complex diseases, lupus, nephrotic syndrome, nephritis, glomerulonephritis, thyroiditis, Grave's disease and immune deficiencies, ~~and cancer~~ in a mammalian subject, the method comprising administering to the mammalian subject a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising the antibody according to claim 46.

Claim 53 (Currently Amended): A method of inhibiting binding of IL-13 to the IL-13 receptor in a mammalian subject, the method comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising an antibody according to claim 46.

Claim 54 (Currently Amended): An isolated antibody that inhibits binding of IL-13 or fragments of IL-13 to IL-13bc or the IL-13 receptor [[.]], wherein said IL-13bc comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of

the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4;

the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acids 26 to 341; and

the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acids 363 to 380.

Claim 55 (Previously Presented): The antibody of claim 54, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody or a polyclonal antibody.

Claim 56 (Previously Presented): The antibody of claim 54, wherein the antibody is a neutralizing antibody.

Claim 57 (Previously Presented): The antibody of claim 56, wherein the neutralizing antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

Claim 58 (Cancelled)

Claim 59 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the antibody according to claim 54.

Claim 60 (Currently Amended): A ~~Method~~ method of treating or ~~modulating~~ inhibiting IL-13 related conditions selected from allergic conditions, asthma, immune complex diseases, lupus, nephrotic syndrome, nephritis, glomerulonephritis, thyroiditis, Grave's disease, and immune deficiencies ~~and cancer~~ in a mammalian subject, the method comprising administering to the mammalian subject a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising the antibody according to claim 54.

Claim 61 (Previously Presented): A method of inhibiting binding IL-13 to the IL-13 receptor in a mammalian subject, the method comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising an antibody according to claim 54.

Claim 62 (Currently Amended): An isolated antibody to a fragment of IL-13bc ~~that has biological activity~~ , wherein said fragment of IL-13bc binds to IL-13 or a biologically active fragment thereof.

Claim 63 (Previously Presented): The antibody of claim 62, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody or a polyclonal antibody.

Claim 64 (Previously Presented): The antibody of claim 62, wherein the antibody is a neutralizing antibody.

Claim 65 (Previously Presented): The antibody of claim 64, wherein the neutralizing antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

Claim 66 (Cancelled)

Claim 67 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the antibody according to claim 62.

Claim 68 (Currently Amended): A method of treating or ~~modulating~~ inhibiting IL-13-related conditions selected from allergic conditions, asthma, immune complex diseases, lupus, nephrotic syndrome, nephritis, glomerulonephritis, thyroiditis, Grave's disease, and immune deficiencies ~~, and cancer~~ in a mammalian subject, the method comprising administering to the mammalian subject a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising the antibody according to claim 62.

Claim 69 (Previously Presented): A method of inhibiting binding IL-13 to the IL-13 receptor in a mammalian subject, said method comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising an antibody according to claim 62.

Claims 70-77 (Cancelled)

Claim 78 (Currently Amended): An antibody to a IL-13bc variant protein encoded by a nucleic acid sequence which hybridizes to the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 under highly stringent conditions [[.]] wherein said nucleic acid sequence encodes a protein that binds to IL-13 or a biologically active fragment thereof.

Claim 79 (Previously Presented): The antibody of claim 78, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody or a polyclonal antibody.

Claim 80 (Previously Presented): The antibody of claim 78, wherein the antibody is a neutralizing antibody.

Claim 81 (Previously Presented): The antibody of claim 80, wherein the neutralizing antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

Claim 82 (Cancelled)

Claim 83 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the antibody according to claim 78.

Claim 84 (Currently Amended): A method of treating or ~~modulating~~ inhibiting IL-13-related conditions selected from allergic conditions, asthma, immune complex diseases, lupus, nephrotic syndrome, nephritis, glomerulonephritis, thyroiditis, Grave's disease, and immune deficiencies, ~~and cancer~~ in a mammalian subject, the method comprising administering to the mammalian subject a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising the antibody according to claim 78.

Claim 85 (Previously Presented): A method of inhibiting binding IL-13 to the IL-13 receptor in a mammalian subject, the method comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising an antibody according to claim 78.

Claim 86 (New): The composition of claim 18, further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 87 (New): The method of claim 41, wherein the composition further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 88 (New): The composition of claim 54, further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 89 (New): An antibody to a IL-13bc variant protein that is at least about 95% identical to a protein selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4; and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 from amino acids 26 to

341; wherein the IL-13bc variant protein binds to IL-13 or a biologically active fragment thereof.

Claim 90 (New): The antibody of claim 89, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody or a polyclonal antibody.

Claim 91 (New): The antibody of claim 89, wherein the antibody is a neutralizing antibody.

Claim 92 (New): The antibody of claim 91, wherein the neutralizing antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

Claim 93 (New): A composition comprising the antibody according to claim 89.

Claim 94 (New): The composition of claim 94, further comprising a pharmaceutical carrier.

Claim 95 (New): A method of treating or ~~modulating~~ inhibiting IL-13-related conditions selected from allergic conditions, asthma, immune complex diseases, lupus, nephrotic syndrome, nephritis, glomerulonephritis, thyroiditis, Grave's disease, and immune deficiencies in a mammalian subject, the method comprising administering to the mammalian subject a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising the antibody according to claim 89.

Claim 96 (New): A method of inhibiting binding IL-13 to the IL-13 receptor in a mammalian subject, the method comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising an antibody according to claim 89.

Claim 97 (New): A method of treating or inhibiting allergic conditions in a mammalian subject, the method comprising administering to the mammalian subject a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising the antibody according to claim 46.

Claim 98 (New): A method of treating or inhibiting asthma in a mammalian subject, the method comprising administering to the mammalian subject a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising the antibody according to claim 46.

Claim 99 (New): A method of treating or inhibiting allergic conditions in a mammalian subject, the method comprising administering to the mammalian subject a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising the antibody according to claim 54

Claim 100 (New): A method of treating or inhibiting asthma in a mammalian subject, the method comprising administering to the mammalian subject a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising the antibody according to claim 54

Claim 101 (New): A method of treating or inhibiting allergic conditions in a mammalian subject, the method comprising administering to the mammalian subject a

therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising the antibody according to claim 78.

Claim 102 (New): A method of treating or inhibiting asthma in a mammalian subject, the method comprising administering to the mammalian subject a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising the antibody according to claim 78.

Claim 103 (New): A method of treating or inhibiting allergic conditions in a mammalian subject, the method comprising administering to the mammalian subject a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising the antibody according to claim 89.

Claim 104 (New): A method of treating or inhibiting asthma in a mammalian subject, the method comprising administering to the mammalian subject a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising the antibody according to claim 89.